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SUPERIOR COURT  
YAVAPAI COUNTY, ARIZONA  
2011 NOV 14 PM 4:18  
SANDRA L. GEARHART, CLERK  
BY: Kelly Gresham

5 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT

6 STATE OF ARIZONA, COUNTY OF YAVAPAI

7 STATE OF ARIZONA,

V1300CR201080049

8 Plaintiff,

9 STATE'S NOTICE OF FILING VICTIM'S  
10 STATEMENT

11 vs.

(The Honorable Warren Darrow)

12 JAMES ARTHUR RAY,

13 Defendant.

14 The State of Arizona, through counsel undersigned, submits the following statement from  
15 Virginia Shore, sister of victim James Shore, for sentencing purposes. This statement was not  
16 included in the statements previously submitted to this Court as part of the Presentence Report.

17 RESPECTFULLY submitted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011.

18  
19 By Sheila S Polk  
20 SHEILA SULLIVAN POLK  
21 YAVAPAI COUNTY ATTORNEY  
22

23  
24 COPIES of the foregoing emailed this  
14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011:

COPIES of the foregoing delivered this  
14<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2011, to

25 Hon. Warren Darrow  
26 [RGearhart@courts.az.gov](mailto:RGearhart@courts.az.gov)

Thomas Kelly  
Via courthouse mailbox

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**Kathy Durrer**

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**From:** Pam Moreton  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 10, 2011 1:36 PM  
**To:** Kathy Durrer  
**Subject:** FW: Statement to Judge Darrow/ re: JAR

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**From:** Virginia Shore  
**Sent:** Monday, September 26, 2011 8:18 PM  
**To:** Pam Moreton  
**Subject:** Statement to Judge Darrow/ re: JAR

In one day, he changed the lives of dozens of people, forever. James Arthur Ray, a delusional and maniacal man, allowed three people in his seminar to die needlessly. This man's complete lack of responsibility, compassion, and due diligence for those in his seminar resulted in a tragic ending for a countless number of families and friends. As we know from the medical experts, all of the deaths and the majority of injuries in the sweat lodge were completely unnecessary and easily avoidable. This man's ego, pride, reckless behavior, and lack of remorse are critical in determining his sentencing. He has shown no remorse for the three deaths, or for those injured, and there is no reason for us to believe that he won't continue to destroy additional lives. His record speaks for itself. We know from his previous sweat lodges that he was aware of the ramifications of his actions. He witnessed others in those sweat lodges also suffer medical distress. Ray's utter disregard and lack of empathy for his fellow human beings is his consistent behavior. Ray admonished, chided, and abused the participants who were relying on him, as they were in unfamiliar territory, and in an altered mental state. His alternating false assurances and degradation led many of the participants to question their own judgment and instincts for self-preservation.

He heard their pleas for help. He was dismissive, uninterested, and repeatedly disregarded all requests for assistance. He should receive the maximum sentence allowed by law. Ray's guilt and negligence have been determined by the jury. Had previous evidence been admitted, it seems clear that he would have been convicted on the higher charge. Nonetheless, he now stands convicted on three charges of negligent homicide for three lost lives, in circumstances that were completely avoidable. It is common knowledge that high heat, combined with dehydration, can be borne by the human body for only a very short period of time. Ray knew what he was doing in that sweat lodge. He was condescending, he humiliated and degraded the people for whom he was responsible when they needed him to ensure their safety. He utterly disregarded their well-being and ignored all of the warning signs. Ray took no precautions. Over fifty people were in attendance and he provided no medical staff to monitor the participants. Repeatedly, his blatantly reckless, careless behavior begs the question: how was it possible for him to be so detached?

In my brother's case, his three young children are now fatherless; his young wife, now a widow. His mother, who previously suffered the loss of one son, has now lost two; two siblings, brotherless. The list goes on and on for all the friends and family of the victims. During the trial, witnesses testified about how my brother saved Sidney Spencer and then how he came back into the tent and attempted to save Kirby Brown. Witnesses have testified about how my brother disregarded Ray's admonitions and humiliation as he dragged Sidney out, right in front of him, as Ray sat by the door, near ventilation. Witnesses have testified about how my brother

kicked-out the back of the tent to get some fresh air in, and how Ray chided him for committing this "sacreligious" act. My brother's heroics in saving one woman and attempting to save another were noticed by Ray. Despite Ray's negligence and dismissive, destructive behavior, James Shore was cognizant of those in distress. He did what Mr. Ray should have done for everyone in need in that tent. Witnesses testified about how my brother was pleading for help after he alerted Ray to Kirby's state, and yet my brother's pleas for help for Kirby and for himself were completely ignored.

In the eleventh hour, Ray's conduct amidst the chaos reveals his state of mind. After the sweat lodge session ended, as witnesses testified, Ray retreated to the shade and left three people who remained behind, unconscious and unattended in the tent, and more than fifteen others struggling or unconscious. Two of the three people who had been left in the tent ended as victims, James Shore and Kirby Brown. They were left in the extreme heat, unconscious and unattended, for an undetermined amount of time. Detective Diskin has stated that it was between ten and twenty minutes that they remained in the heat - equivalent to another entire sweat lodge session. Witnesses testified that Ray was told about the three remaining in the tent. But amidst the chaos, with nearly twenty of his participants struggling or unconscious, Ray simply sat there under a tree in the shade. As the nightmare ensued, and pleas for help increased. Ray just sat and watched over the hell he created, sipping his water. He did not help. He did not call for help. He sat and watched. This man is a risk to all those around him, a threat to society.

Virginia Shore